

(Updated: 05.04.2012)

## **Brief APA citation guidelines**

Based on:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th edition). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

For further details please consult the publication.

The APA format documents a paper's sources by both citing them in the text and describing them bibliographically in the paper's *References* list.

### ***1. Reference citations in text: the author-date method***

#### *1.1 Integral and non-integral citation:*

Integral:

Farmer (2009) found that the chicken came first.  
According to Farmer (2009), the chicken came first.  
The chicken-and-egg problem was solved by Farmer (2009).  
Farmer and Lay (2009) showed that ...  
The work of Farmer and Lay (2009) demonstrates that ...

*Rare:*

In 2009, Farmer presented his chicken-and-egg theory and ...

Non-integral:

It was the chicken that came first (Farmer, 2009).  
Previous research showed that it was the chicken that came first (Farmer, 2009).  
The findings were confirmed later (Farmer & Lay, 2009).

#### *1.2 One work by one author:*

Farmer (2009) pointed out that the chicken-and-egg question was considered impossible to answer. Furthermore, Farmer stated that ...

#### *1.3 One work by multiple authors:*

Two authors:

Farmer and Hatch (2009) compared free-range eggs ...

Three or more authors:

- As first citation in text:

Framer, Hatch, and Lay (2009) advocate that ...

- As subsequent first citation per paragraph thereafter:

Framer et al. (2009) furthermore explore ...

- Subsequent citations after first citation within a paragraph (omit year):

Framer et al. found ...

*1.4 Works with no author:*

The book *Free-range eggs* (2009) is ...

*1.5 Authors with the same surname:*

A. M. Farmer (2004) and P. M. Farmer (2006) studied ...

*1.6 Secondary sources*

Lay's observations (as cited in Farmer, 2009) ...

*1.7 Personal communication*

A. M. Farmer (personal communication, March 21, 2009)

*1.8 Two or more works published in the same year and in-press works:*

Several studies (Farmer, 2006a, 2006b, 2006c; Lay, 2005, in press-a, in press-b) discuss ...

*1.9 Direct quotation* (quotations of fewer than 40 words): incorporate into text, cite word by word, use double quotation marks, and indicate exact location

As Barn (2005) points out, "in the hands of an experimental scientist, the question is simple and straightforward" (p. 24).

or

Commenting on earlier research results, Barn (2005) points out that "in the hands of an experimental scientist, the question is simple and straightforward" (p. 24) and notes ...

or

It has been pointed out that "in the hands of an experimental scientist, the question is simple and straightforward" (Barn, 2005, p. 24).

*1.10 Long quotations* (usually those of 40 words or more): start on a new line, indent them about 1,27 cm from the left margin, use double spacing for the entire quotation, do not use quotation marks, put source after final punctuation mark.

Farmer (2007) questioned the validity of the results:

Xxx xxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxx xx xx x xxx xxx.  
 XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXX XXXX XX XXXXXXXXXXXX XX X XXXXXXXX XX XXXXXXXXXXX  
 XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XX XXXX XXXXX XXXX. Xx xx xxxxxxxxxxxx xxxx xxx  
 XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX  
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.  
 xx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx xxxxx-xxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxx xx xxx xxxxxx,  
 xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxx. XXXXXXXX xxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxx  
 xxxxxx xx xxxxxxxx xx xxxxxxxxxxx. (p. 26)

Several studies questioned the validity of the results:

Xxx xxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxx xx xx x xxx xxx.  
 XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXX XXXX XX XXXXXXXXXXXX XX X XXXXXXXX XX XXXXXXXXXXX  
 XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XX XXXX XXXXX XXXX. Xx xx xxxxxxxxxxxx xxxx xxx  
 XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX  
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.  
 xx xxxxxxxxxxxx xx xxxxx-xxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxx xx xxx xxxxxx,  
 xxx xxxxxxxxxxxx, xx xxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxx. XXXXXXXX xxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxx  
 xxxxxx xx xxxxxxxx xx xxxxxxxxxxx. (Farmer, 2009, pp. 25-26)

**2. List of references items**

References should be placed at the end of the paper on a new page, in the References section, listing each source cited in the text alphabetically by the author's name (or by a work's title when no author is given). Double space all reference entries and use hanging indent format (indent about seven spaces or 0.7 cm).

Entire book, print version, single author	Farmer, A. M. (2009). <i>The chicken-and-egg problem</i> . Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press.
Entire book, print version, joint authors	Farmer, A. M., & Farmer, P. M. (2009). <i>The chicken-and-egg problem: Mystery solved</i> (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: Buck, Starr, & Winnipeg.
Electronic version of print book	Farmer, A. M. (2009). <i>The chicken-and-egg problem</i> . Retrieved from <a href="http://books.google.com/books">http://books.google.com/books</a>
Edited book	Farmer, A. M., & Farmer, P. M. (Eds.). (2009). <i>The science of unsolvable problems</i> . New York, NY: Guilford Press.
Book chapter, print version	Mayhem, A. D. (2009). The conundrum. In A. M. Farmer & P. M. Farmer (Eds.), <i>The science of unsolvable problems</i> (pp. 25–47). New York, NY: Guilford Press.
Journal article/single author (Paginated by Volume)	Barn, I. (2006). The chicken issue revisited. <i>Annual Review of Bird Science</i> , 13, 24–36.
Journal article/single author (Paginated by Issue)	Lay, M. (2009). The egg issue revisited. <i>Bird Research</i> , 8(1), 47–58.
Journal article/multiple Authors	Farmer, P. M., & Farmer, A. M. (2007). Theoretical bases of the chicken-and-egg problem. <i>Applied Science</i> , 1(3), 1–47.  Farmer, P. M., Barn, I., & Farmer, A. M. (2008). Which came first? The chicken or the egg? <i>Knowledge Management Research</i> , 2(9), 65–74.
Paper presented at a conference	Lay, M. (2007, February). <i>The chicken-and-egg debate: Which came first?</i> Paper presented at the Annual Conference of Philosophers, Denver, Colorado.

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Tollas, B. (2008, May). *Új eredmények a tyúk vagy tojás kérdéskör genetikai hátteréről. [New results concerning the genetic basis of the chicken or egg problem.]*. Paper presented at the Genetics Symposium, Madrid, Spain.

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Unpublished doctoral dissertation Farmer, A. M. (2004). *Revisiting the 'Which came first — The chicken or the egg?' problem* (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge.

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Unpublished thesis Farmer, A. M. (2004). *The chicken or the egg: A new perspective* (Unpublished master's thesis). Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge.

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### Electronic sources

Journal article without DOI (when DOI is not available) Kálmos, B. (2011). Language learner errors and dyslexia: A tale of unlikely parallels. *WoPaLP*, 5, 1-15. Retrieved from <http://langped.elte.hu/WoPaLP.htm>

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Online magazine article Troy, T. (2010, March). Tips for language learners: The AL perspective. *AL Review*, 11(5). Retrieved from <http://www.al-review.org/AL/>

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Newsletter article, no author Dyslexia in focus. (2012, January). *IATEFL-H Newsletter*. Retrieved from <http://iatefl.hu/>

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Online newspaper article Pickler, O. M. (2012, February 11). Look before you leap. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com>

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Electronic-only book Turin, R. (n.d.). *Pragmatics at work*. Retrieved from <http://www.onlineling.com/showitem.245>

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Entry in an online reference work	Swine, E. (2006). Translation studies. In Z. E. Black (Ed.), <i>The Oxford encyclopaedia of translation</i> (Spring 2005 ed.). Retrieved from <a href="http://enciclopedia.ox.edu/entries/translation/">http://enciclopedia.ox.edu/entries/translation/</a>
Podcast	Huron, D. (Producer). (2006. May 20). <i>Suggestopedia</i> [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.elf-radio.com/">http://www.elf-radio.com/</a>
Blog post	Silva, Z. (2010, June 27). The best approach to ESL? [Web log comment]. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.double.org.au/the1stESL">http://www.double.org.au/the1stESL</a>
Video blog post	Hewitt, M. (2011, September 11). Using the Berlitz method. [Video file]. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mjb83RDTUNy">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mjb83RDTUNy</a>

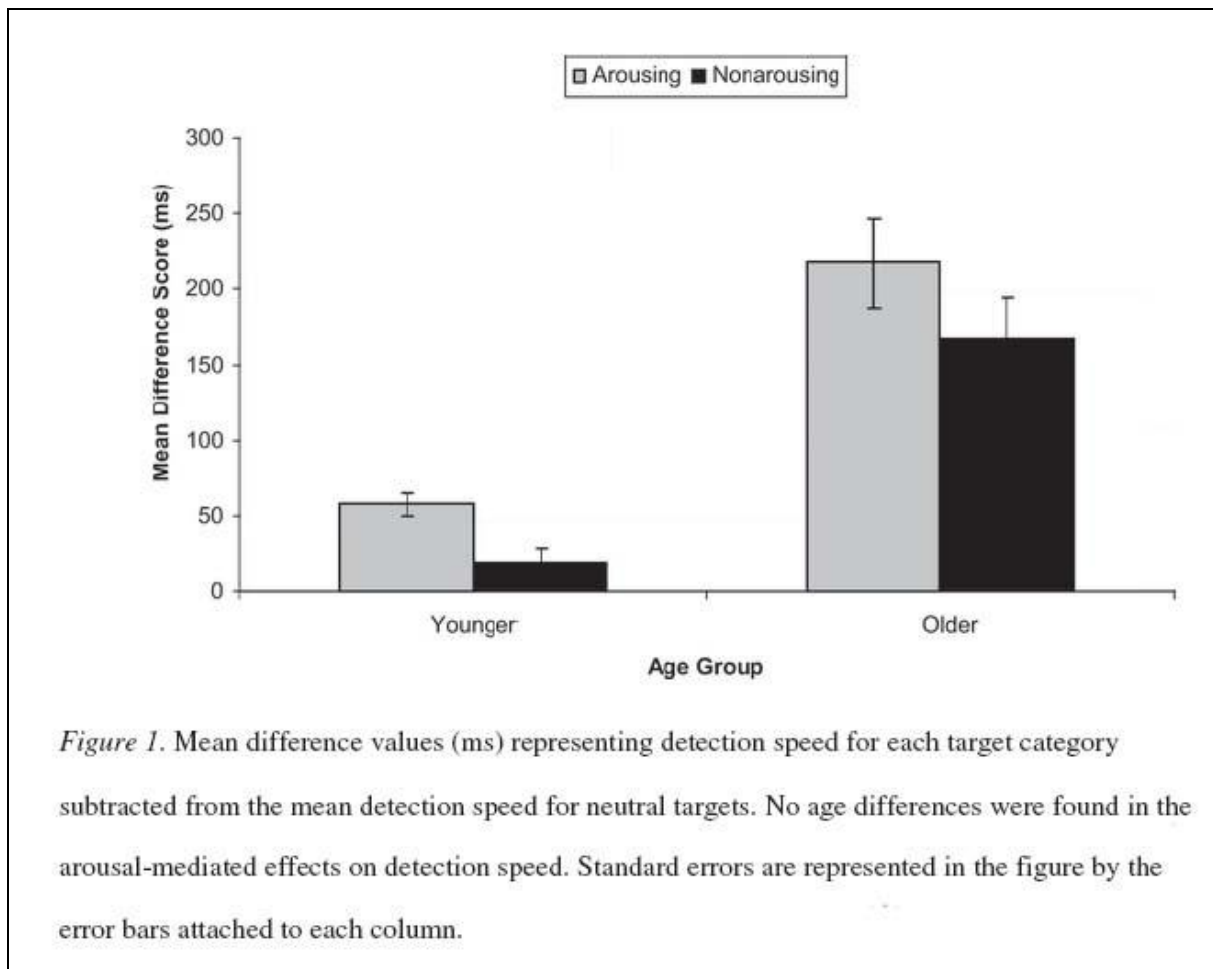
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### 3. Formatting tables and figures

Use Arabic numerals to number tables (Table 1, Table 2) and figures (Figure 1, Figure 2). The number of the table and the title go above the table (see Figure 1). The number of the figure and the title go below the figure (see Figure 2).

Measure	Younger group		Older group		<i>F</i> (1, 46)	<i>p</i>
	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>		
Years of education	13.92	1.28	16.33	2.43	18.62	<.001
Beck Anxiety Inventory	9.39	5.34	6.25	6.06	3.54	.066
BADS–DEX	20.79	7.58	13.38	8.29	10.46	.002
STAI–State	45.79	4.44	47.08	3.48	1.07	.306
STAI–Trait	45.64	4.50	45.58	3.15	0.02	.963
Digit Symbol Substitution	49.62	7.18	31.58	6.56	77.52	<.001
Generative naming	46.95	9.70	47.17	12.98	.004	.951
Vocabulary	33.00	3.52	35.25	3.70	4.33	.043
Digit Span–Backward	8.81	2.09	8.25	2.15	0.78	.383
Arithmetic	16.14	2.75	14.96	3.11	1.84	.182
Mental Control	32.32	3.82	23.75	5.13	40.60	<.001
Self-Ordered Pointing	1.73	2.53	9.25	9.40	13.18	.001
WCST perseverative errors	0.36	0.66	1.83	3.23	4.39	.042

Figure 1. Sample APA formatted table with a note.



*Figure 2* Sample APA formatted figure.

#### **4. Formatting the text**

Typeface: Times New Roman, 12-point font size.

Line spacing: double-space between all text lines; single-spacing or one-and-a-half spacing in tables and figures.

Margins: uniform margins of 2.54 cm\*.

Indentation: indent the first line of every paragraph (5-7 spaces or ½ inch), left align all remaining lines\*\*; exceptions: the abstract, block quotations, titles and headings, table titles and notes, figure captions.

\* for BA and MA theses you should set the left margin at 3 cm because 0.5 cm is usually taken up when the thesis is bound

\*\* for seminar papers and BA and MA theses you may choose to justify lines

For sample APA formatted papers visit the [APA homepage](http://www.apastyle.org) (<http://www.apastyle.org>) and study the following contents:

[APA Tutorial](#)

<http://flash1r.apa.org/apastyle/basics/index.htm>



[APA Documentation Style](#) [see Social Sciences section/Documenting sources]  
[http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/#p04\\_c09\\_o](http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/#p04_c09_o)

[APA Documentation Style](#)  
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

[APA Instruction videos](#)  
<http://library.nmu.edu/guides/userguides/apavideos.htm>

[APA Style Blog](#)  
<http://blog.apastyle.org/>

[APA Supplemental Materials](#)  
<http://apastyle.org/manual/supplement/index.aspx>

[APA Formatted Sample Papers](#)  
<http://search.apastyle.org/?query=&facet=stylecontenttype:Sample%20paper>